

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-50 (cancelled)

Claim 51 (new): A conservation tillage implement comprising:

- (a) a cultivator frame having three or more longitudinally spaced apart transverse cross-members;
- (b) a plurality of individual coulter wheel assemblies;
- (c) a mounting means corresponding to each individual coulter wheel assembly; and,
- (d) three or more longitudinally spaced apart rows of laterally spaced apart individual coulter wheel assemblies, each coulter wheel assembly removably mounted on the frame using the mounting means, a coulter wheel assembly in a given row being staggered with respect to the coulter wheel assemblies in a longitudinally adjacent row.

Claim 52 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 51, wherein each coulter wheel assembly is able to deflect upwardly about a horizontal axis in response to impact with an obstacle.

Claim 53 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 51, wherein each coulter wheel assembly comprises a coulter wheel and a spring element, the spring element having a horizontal spring axis about which the coulter wheel arcuately deflects in response to impact with an obstacle.

Claim 54 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 53, wherein the spring element comprises a coil spring having upper and lower shank ends extending tangentially therefrom.

Claim 55 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 54, wherein the lower shank end is permitted to deflect upwardly about the horizontal spring axis in response to impact with an obstacle.

Claim 56 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 51, wherein the mounting means permits rotational movement of the coulter wheel assembly about a vertical axis.

Claim 57 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 56, wherein the mounting means comprises a vertically extending hollow strut having a pair of opposed horizontal slots therethrough.

Claim 58 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 57, wherein the coulter wheel assembly comprises a shank having a horizontal hole therethrough and wherein the shank is secured within the hollow strut by means of a horizontal pin extending through the slots and the hole, thereby permitting rotational movement of the shank within the hollow strut about the vertical axis.

Claim 59 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 51, wherein each row further comprises removable individual field working tools.

Claim 60 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 59, wherein the individual coulter wheel assemblies in a given row are staggered with respect to all coulter wheel assemblies and field working tools in longitudinally adjacent rows of the conservation tillage implement.

Claim 61 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 60, wherein the individual field working tools in a given row are staggered with respect to all coulter wheel assemblies and field working tools in longitudinally adjacent rows of the conservation tillage implement.

Claim 62 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 51, wherein the coulter wheel assemblies are laterally adjustable.

Claim 63 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 51, wherein the coulter wheel assemblies are mounted on the transverse cross-members.

Claim 64 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 63, wherein the one or more coulter wheel assemblies are mounted on the transverse cross-members by means of a longitudinal extension member.

Claim 65 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 63, wherein there are a plurality of transverse cross-members for a given row.

Claim 66 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 65, wherein the plurality of transverse cross-members are aligned along a common transverse axis.

Claim 67 (new): The conservation tillage implement according to claim 51, wherein the rows consist of laterally spaced apart coulter wheel assemblies.

Claim 68 (new): A kit for making a conservation tillage implement according to claim 51 from an existing cultivator frame comprising:

- (a) a plurality of coulter wheel assemblies;
- (b) a plurality of mounting means for mounting the coulter wheel assemblies to the cultivator frame; and,
- (c) a set of instructions for mounting the coulter wheel assemblies to the cultivator frame using the mounting means.

Claim 69 (new): The kit according to claim 68, wherein the kit further comprises a stilt means for increasing the height of the cultivator frame relative to ground level.

Claim 70 (new): A method of assembling a conservation tillage implement comprising:

- (a) providing a cultivator frame have longitudinally spaced apart transverse cross-members;
- (b) providing a plurality of individual coulter wheel assemblies;
- (c) providing a mounting means for each coulter wheel assembly; and,
- (d) removably mounting the coulter wheel assemblies to the frame using the mounting means to form three or more longitudinally spaced apart rows of laterally spaced apart coulter wheel assemblies, a coulter wheel assembly in a given row being staggered with respect to the coulter wheel assemblies in a longitudinally adjacent row.